

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

STATE OF WASHINGTON,

C17-5806RJB

Plaintiff,

v.

THE GEO GROUP, INC., a Florida
corporation,

Defendant.

C17-5769 RJB

UGOCHUKWU GOODLUCK
NWAUZOR, on behalf of all those
similarly situated, and FERNANDO
AGUIRRE-URBINA, individually,

ORDER ON MOTION FOR RELIEF
FROM A DEADLINE

Plaintiffs,

v.

THE GEO GROUP, INC., a Florida
corporation,

Defendant

THIS MATTER comes before the Court on the Defendant The GEO Group, Inc.'s
("GEO") Motion for Relief from Deadline to File Trial-Related Submissions. Filed in
Washington v. The GEO Group, Inc., U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington

1 case number 17-5806, Dkt. 532 and in *Nwauzor v. The GEO Group*, U.S. District Court for the
2 Western District of Washington case number 17-5769, Dkt. 420. The Court has considered the
3 pleadings filed regarding the motions and the remaining file.

4 These two consolidated cases arise from Plaintiffs' claims that GEO failed to pay
5 immigration detainees in its Voluntary Work Program ("VWP") the Washington minimum wage
6 at its Northwest Detention Center, now renamed Northwest ICE Processing Center. One case,
7 *Nwauzor*, case number 17-5769, is a class action. The other case is brought by the State of
8 Washington. *State*, case number 17-5806. On June 1, 2021, trial began. After an 11-day trial,
9 jury deliberations over three days, and a declaration from the jury that they could not agree on a
10 verdict, a mistrial was declared on June 17, 2021. *State*, case number 17-5806, Dkt. 487;
11 *Nwauzor*, case number 17-5769, Dkt. 376. The Plaintiffs' motion for a new trial was granted;
12 the pretrial conference was reset to October 1, 2021 and trial was reset to begin on October 12,
13 2021. *State*, case number 17-5806, Dkt. 497; *Nwauzor*, case number 17-5769, Dkt. 390. That
14 order provided:

15 If the parties feel that a modification of the pre-trial order, or supplements to
16 motions *in limine*, or changes to the jury instructions are appropriate, they may
17 provide the Court with such proposals by **August 26, 2021**, and additional
18 motions, if any, should be filed by **August 26, 2021**.

19 The previous orders of the Court remain in effect. . .

20 *Id.* GEO now moves for an extension of the August 26, 2021 deadline, to September 23, 2021.
21 *State*, case number 17-5806, Dkt. 532; *Nwauzor*, case number 17-5769, Dkt. 420. GEO contends
22 that new local counsel for GEO needs the extra time to prepare such submissions. *Id.* The
23 Plaintiffs object to the extension. *State*, case number 17-5806 Dkt. 533; *Nwauzor*, case number
24 17-5769, Dkt. 421.

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(4), a case schedule may be modified with good cause.

1 GEO's motion for an extension of time should be granted, in part. It has stated good
2 cause for a brief extension. The August 26, 2021 deadline to file proposed modifications of the
3 pre-trial order, supplements to motions *in limine*, changes to the jury instructions, or additional
4 motions, if any, is extended to **September 9, 2021**. Parties should be aware that this is **not** an
5 invitation to revisit all the prior orders, merely an opportunity to offer minor alterations
6 reflecting changes occurring since those orders were issued.

7 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

8 The Clerk is directed to send uncertified copies of this Order to all counsel of record and
9 to any party appearing *pro se* at said party's last known address.

10 Dated this 25th day of August, 2021.

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12 ROBERT J. BRYAN
13 United States District Judge
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